

12. Contrast the regulation of an inducible operon with that of a repressible operon. Give an example of each.

- **Inducible:**
 - Regulatory gene constantly transcribed making **lac operon** generally inactive.
 - E. Coli takes in lactose whenever available, converts it to allolactose.
 - Allolactose is an inducer that inactivates the repressor, thus lac operon genes are free and active
 - Lac operon then codes genes for lactose catabolism only when there is a demand by lactose
- **Repressible:** Repressor genes, that inhibit amino acid synthesis, are usually inactive
 - **When tryptophan in environment is...**
 - Available, it activates repressor gene and stops the production of tryptophan
 - Unavailable, the repressor gene is inactive and E. Coli synthesizes its own tryptophan

13. Define mutation. Define point mutation and describe three types.

- A **mutation** is a change in the nucleotide base sequence(s).
- **Point mutation:** single nucleotide base is affected.

14. List three effects of point mutations. Describe frame-shift mutations.

- **Silent:** Redundancy in codons allow for reduction of error. **No change.**
- **Missense:** A single nucleotide change causes change in **one specific amino acid.**
- **Nonsense:** A single nucleotide change cause change from amino acid codon into **STOP codon**
- **Frameshifts** involve inserting or deleting a nucleotide to shift the sequence of codons.

15. Discuss how ionizing and non-ionizing radiation cause mutations in a genome. Give examples.

- **Ionizing:** X-rays and gamma rays energize electrons to break free and attack other atoms.
- **Non-ionizing:** UV light causes adjacent pyrimidines (C,T,U) to covalently bond to each other.
 - This formation is called pyrimidine dimers.

16. Are most mutations advantageous or deleterious?

- **Mostly deleterious**, because they cause non-functional proteins or abrupt transcription.
 - If cells cannot metabolize, they die and these mutation disappear from gene pool.
- Mutations can be advantageous as they could help with survival, thus contribute to evolution.

17. Describe the so-called light repair and dark repair mechanisms of DNA repair.

- **DNA photolyase** is an enzyme activated by visible light to break dimers.
- Repair enzymes cut damaged DNA, then reconnected with DNA polymerase I and DNA ligase (occurs in either light or dark)

18. Contrast positive selection and negative selection approaches to identifying bacterial mutants

- **Positive selection:** selecting a mutant by eliminating the normal phenotypes.
 - Example: isolating penicillin-resistant bacteria by spreading in penicillin
- **Negative selection:** indirect method of selecting **auxotrophs** from normal phenotypes
 - Auxotrophs = mutant with differing nutritional requirements than normal

